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EXHIBIT A
11-6-02

CROMPTON SEAGER & TUFTE, LLC
1221 NICOLLET AVENUE
SUITE 800
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55403-2420

#20

In re Application of
Thomas E. Broome
Serial No.: 09/723,003
Filed: November 27, 2000
For: Distal Protection Device and
Method

NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL
FROM ISSUE
UNDER 37 CFR 1.313(b)

This is in response to applicant's Petition filed August 21, 2003, "Request to Withdraw from issue under 37CFR 1.313(a)". Accordingly, issue fee has been paid therefore petition will be treated under 37CFR 1.313(b).

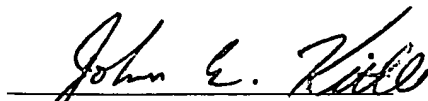
The above-identified application is withdrawn from issue after payment of the issue fee due to unpatentability of one or more claims. See 37 CFR 1.313(b)(3).

The above-identified application is hereby withdrawn from issue.

The issue fee is refundable upon written request. If, however, the application is again found allowable, the issue fee can be applied toward payment of the issue fee in the amount identified on the new Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due upon written request. This request and any balance due must be received on or before the due date noted in the new Notice of Allowance in order to prevent abandonment of the application.

Telephone inquiries should be directed to John E. Kittle at (703) 308-0873.

The above-identified application is being forwarded to the examiner for prompt appropriate action, including notifying applicant of the new status of this application.


John E. Kittle
Director
Technology Center 3700/2900